

Guidance for LEA Targeting Process

- ❖ The allocation per low-income child is determined by dividing the total of the basic and concentration grants by the total number of public and private low-income children in the school district.
- ❖ School districts must serve all schools over 75 percent poverty (including middle and high schools) before serving any school at or below 75 percent poverty. (If funds remain, school districts may serve schools below 75 percent poverty in rank order either by grade span groupings or district wide.
- ❖ School districts serving only schools at or above 35 percent poverty must allocate funds on the basis of the total number of low-income children in each area or school but it is not bound by the 125 percent rule.
- ❖ School districts serving schools below the 35 percent poverty level are required to allocate to all of its participating schools an amount for each low-income child that is at least 125 percent of the district's allocation per low-income child.
- ❖ School districts must allocate at least this amount for each low-income child in every school the district serves, not just for those schools below the 35 percent poverty level.
- ❖ An LEA calculates 125 percent of its allocation per low-income child before the LEA reserves any funds.
- ❖ Before allocating funds, an LEA shall reserve funds of the top that as are reasonable and necessary to— conduct other authorized activities such as preschool programs, summer school and intersession programs, professional development, school improvement, and coordinated services.
- ❖ There is no maximum amount that an LEA may reserve for administration, staff development or other reservations. However, please bear in mind that Title I funds are primarily to be used to enable participating children to make adequate progress towards meeting the challenging State standards.
- ❖ An LEA that receives more than \$500,000 under subpart 2 or Part A must spend at least 1 percent of its allocation for parental involvement activities.
- ❖ School districts using the feeder pattern concept to determine school eligibility must calculate the number of low-income students for the receiving school by multiplying the total receiving school enrollment by the average percentage of poverty for the feeder school(s). This number must be used for allocating the Title I funds to the feeder school.
- ❖ If remaining funds are not sufficient to fully fund the lowest ranked eligible school attendance area, the school district may serve the school if it determines the funds are sufficient to enable

children to make adequate progress toward meeting the State's challenging performance standards.

- ❖ School districts are not required to allocate the same per-child amount to each school. However, the school district must allocate a higher per-child amount to schools with higher poverty rates than it allocates to schools with lower poverty rates. In addition, if you have private school children from different attendance areas, you would have to calculate the various per pupil amounts for each attendance area to determine the private school allocation.
- ❖ School districts are allowed to use any month's data to determine they're free and reduce eligible child count. Use the month that is most advantageous for your school district.
- ❖ Federal regulations require Title I funds to be allocated at the **building** level based on the number of low income children residing in each attendance area.
- ❖ The intended budget for each building needs to meet or exceed the targeted building allocation.
- ❖ Federal regulations require districts to have an accounting process in place that documents Title I expenditures by building. The process will help ensure that the intended Title I building allocations are being expended for that site.
- ❖ Districts may not take funds from a building that has a larger allocation and distribute it to buildings that have smaller allocations.
- ❖ If there are buildings that do not receive enough Title I funds through the targeting process, districts may use Title I carryover funds from the previous year, local funds or other federal funds (i.e., Title VI) to support the program.
- ❖ An LEA may not allocate a greater per-pupil amount to schoolwide program schools than to targeted assistance schools even though schoolwide programs serve all children in the school. The Title I statute requires allocations to be based on the total number of low-income children in a school attendance area or school. Therefore, poverty is the only factor on which an LEA may determine funding. In other words, an LEA may not allocate funds based on the instructional model, educational need, or any other non-poverty factor. In fact, now that Part A places the responsibility for selecting participants and designing programs on schools rather than on the LEA, the LEA will not necessarily be in a position to know in advance the instructional model or educational need when determining allocations.